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elers as well as to persons directly interested in the development of the countries of which they treat.

The *Botanical Gazette* for October contains a sketch, by Mr. Norton, of the life of the late Joseph F. Joor, a botanist of Texas and Louisiana.

PETROGRAPHY.

The Lavas of Two Volcanoes in the Eifel.—The lavas of the small volcanoes Hochsimmer and Bellerberg, near Mayen, in the Eifel, were thought to be similar in composition by the earlier geologists. Schottler,¹ however, reports the Hochsimmer lava to be a porphyritic leucitite with phenocrysts of augite, biotite, olivine, and hauyne in a groundmass composed of leucite, augite, and glass. The Bellerberg lavas are augite-andesites, with phenocrysts of augite and biotite in a groundmass composed of augite, plagioclase, a little leucite, and glass. Olivine, hauyne, and quartz are also present in some specimens as porphyritic crystals. The rock approaches in character the tephrites. Large numbers of inclusions are imbedded in the lavas. Some of them are unquestionably endogenous, while others are certainly exogenous. A few consisting of single minerals exhibit no evidence as to their origin. All have been deeply corroded by the action of the enclosing magma. The isolated minerals represented among the foreign inclusions are: hauyne, zircon, corundum, garnet, olivine, feldspar, and quartz. The rock inclusions are fragments of graywackes, slates, quartz-feldspar-aggregates, cordierite and sillimanite-bearing schists, hornblende-schists and biotite-schists, augite-feldspar-aggregates, limestone, and sanidine-aggregates. The limestone inclusions often contain cavities, and in these crystals of chalcophorite, ettringite, and quartz have been deposited. The action of the magma on the limestone is seen in the formation of feldspars, augite, and glass in the rock surrounding the inclusion, and in the production of wollastonite, quartz, and nepheline in the inclusion itself.

A Sedimentary Granite.—Professor Winchell² points out the fact that the oldest rocks in Minnesota are the archæan greenstones. The granites which intrude these are believed to be fused sediments.

¹ *Neues Jahrb. f. Min.* etc., Beil. Bd. xi, p. 554.

² *Amer. Geologist*, vol. xxii, p. 299.

On the shores of Kekequabic Lake is an augite-granite so closely associated with greenstone-conglomerates (probably tuffs) or greenstone-schists that gradations between the two are thought to have been discovered. Grant, who has studied the same granite, considers it a normal intrusive.

Brush's Manual of Determinative Mineralogy¹ appears in an entirely new edition, — the fifteenth. The book has been completely rewritten by Penfield since the thirteenth edition was published, only the plan of the original having been retained. The contents are entirely new. The present edition differs from its immediate predecessor in the addition of a chapter on the physical properties of minerals and in an entirely new set of analytical tables.

The introductory portion of the volume occupies 244 pages, the tables 58 double pages, and the indices 12 pages. In the index to minerals are found the names of 1015 kinds, a fact that indicates the thoroughness with which the tables cover the field they are intended to cover. There are very few minerals known, except the rarest, that may not easily be identified by following the scheme of analysis indicated by the author.

The chapter on physical properties is devoted mainly to an outline discussion of the principles of crystallography based on the theory of thirty-two classes of symmetry. It treats also very briefly of cohesion, luster, color, and density. All the explanations are clear and the descriptions lucid, so that the student need not have the least difficulty in following them.

There is no question that Professor Penfield's book will rapidly achieve the highest favor among teaching mineralogists. Were it not for the fact that it is somewhat expensive for a book of its kind, it would no doubt soon nearly supplant all other manuals of a similar character among English-speaking students. W. S. B.

Notes. — The interesting group of lava flows for which the name of latite has been proposed by Ransome² is carefully described in a recent Bulletin of the Survey. These rocks have already been referred to in those notes. From the discussion of the relations of the effusives intermediate in character between the trachytes and

¹ *Manual of Determinative Mineralogy, with an Introduction on Blowpipe Analysis*, by George J. Brush. Revised and enlarged, with entirely new tables for the identification of minerals, by Samuel L. Penfield. Fifteenth edition. x + 312 pp., 375 figs. New York, Wiley & Sons, 1898. \$3.50.

² *Bull. U. S. Geol. Survey*, No. 89, Washington, 1898.